



Primary Source Documents at the Missouri State Archives  
Relating to the 2019 National History Day in Missouri Theme

***Triumph & Tragedy in History***

The Missouri State Archives is the official repository for state records of permanent and historical value. It has many unique resources that are available to research for National History Day in Missouri topics. Below are just a few suggestions to help select a project. All of the resources available on a specific topic may not be included.

Finding aids are available for many resources at the Missouri State Archives, at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/findingaids/default>.

More than 9 million records can be accessed through Missouri Digital Heritage, which is a collaborative portal that allows access to Missouri's historical collections. Missouri Digital Heritage is available at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/mdh>.

When citing records from the Missouri State Archives, please use the following link for reference: <http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/citations>.

**Remember to check your public library for secondary sources on any topic you choose to research.**

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**Rebuilding the Missouri State Capitol building (1913)**

On the evening of February 5, 1911, lightning struck the dome of the Missouri State Capitol building in Jefferson City. Fed by dry roof beams and seventy-four years of accumulated state records, the flames turned the center of the building into a gigantic chimney. Despite the best efforts of several fire departments, the fire burned out of control. By morning only the outer walls remained.

- Manuscripts – Bob Priddy Collection: Historic City of Jefferson
- Manuscripts – Dr. Arnold G. Parks Collection: Postcards of Jefferson City
- Pictures from these collections are available on Missouri Digital Heritage: Historic Postcards from Jefferson City <http://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/postjc>
- Manuscripts – Ralph Miller Collection: Capitol Fire Photographs - These images are available on Manuscript DVD #1 in the Archives Reference Room.

The State Capitol Commission Board, created in May 1911, was in charge of oversight of the new Capitol Building. A \$3,500,000 bond, approved by voters on August 1, 1911, funded this construction, which began in 1913.

- Missouri Secretary of State – Elections: Election Returns August 1, 1911
- State Capitol Commission – Correspondence: Incoming and Outgoing 1911 - 1923
- Capitol construction photographs (Missouri Digital Heritage)  
[https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/mdh\\_splash/default.asp?coll=capitol](https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/mdh_splash/default.asp?coll=capitol)

- Capitol Decoration Commission - The Missouri State Capitol: Report of the Capitol Decoration Commission 1917-1928
- State Capitol Commission – Capitol Dedication: Blanche Leach Capitol Dedication Scrapbook
- Capitol Time Capsule –The cornerstone to the Capitol Building was formally laid in a ceremony on June 24, 1915. A time capsule was inserted inside the cornerstone and contained many contemporary items such as newspapers, Masonic materials, a photograph book, a Bible, state publications, and more. On June 18, 2015, near the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the cornerstone laying, the time capsule was removed from the cornerstone and opened. Resources from the time capsule are **on DVD in Archives Reading Room**.
- Vertical File – Capitol Fire, 1911

### **Missouri Department of Conservation**

Missouri voters passed Constitutional Amendment No. 4 by initiative petition on November 3, 1936, creating the Missouri Conservation Commission and the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). The Conservation Commission is a four-person board appointed by the Governor of Missouri. The Commission, in turn, appoints a director of the MDC. The MDC operates solely by monies gathered through sales of hunting, fishing, trapping and other licenses and a 1/8<sup>th</sup> of 1% sales tax, which was approved in 1976 with Constitutional Amendment 1.

- Department of Conservation –Initiative Petitions and Resolutions – Sample of 1936 Initiative Petition
- Office of the Secretary of State – Elections: Initiative Petitions and Referendums – Constitutional Amendment 4 (1936)
- Office of the Secretary of State – Elections: Election Returns for November 3, 1936 General Election: Constitutional Amendments, Adair – Wright and City of St. Louis
- Office of the Secretary of State – Elections: Election Returns for November 2, 1976 General Election: Constitutional Amendments and Propositions
- Missouri Department of Conservation Photograph Collection (Missouri Digital Heritage)  
<http://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/p16795coll24>
- *Missouri Conservationist* (Missouri Digital Heritage)  
<http://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/moconserv>
- Missouri Department of Conservation – Annual and Biennial Reports, 1881 – Present  
Annual reports from 2002 to present  
<https://mdc.mo.gov/about-us/business-information/annual-reports>

### **1861 Missouri Convention (1861 – 1863)**

In late 1860, Missouri, like the United States, was on the edge of civil war. The tension between pro-slavery and abolitionist factions in Kansas and Missouri had escalated into open border warfare, forcing Missouri Governor Robert Marcellus Stewart into sending troops to the border. The election of President Abraham Lincoln roused abolitionist sentiments in the northern states to a fever pitch and sparked the slaveholding states of the South into a secessionist frenzy. Before Lincoln's inauguration, South Carolina seceded followed quickly by six other states. The Missouri Convention of 1861 was called to decide whether Missouri would secede from the United States. There were five meetings of the Missouri Convention between 1861 and 1863.

- Secretary of State – Constitutions and Constitutional Conventions: Records of the 1861 Missouri Convention
  - Auditor and Committee reports
  - 1860 Census of Missouri
  - Correspondence and communications
  - Delegate election certificates

- Expense accounts
- Enabling legislation
- Amendments and Resolutions
- Governor's message and minutes
- Ordinances
- Roll call ballots
- Rules
- General Assembly - House and Senate Journals: Journal of the Senate, Extra Session of the Rebel Legislature, 1861, Session Proclamation by Governor Claiborne Fox Jackson

### **Tri-State Tornado**

The Tri-State Tornado occurred on March 18, 1925, wreaking havoc as it travelled through Missouri, Illinois and Indiana. The tornado hit towns in Bollinger, Iron, Madison, Perry and Reynolds Counties in Missouri. Considered the deadliest tornado in U.S. history, 695 deaths and 2027 injuries were associated with the Tri-State Tornado.

Resources at the Missouri State Archives: (Also in Missouri Digital Heritage)

- Secretary of State – Commissions: Governor's Proclamations 1892 – 2014
- General Assembly - Missouri House and Senate Journals: 1925 Regular Session
- Maps – Missouri Digital Heritage
- Photographs – Missouri Digital Heritage
- <http://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/search/collection/p16795coll5/searchterm/tri-state%20tornado/field/all/mode/all/conn/and/order/title/ad/asc>

### **Flood of 1993**

Flooding that occurred along the Mississippi and Missouri rivers and their tributaries from May through October of 1993.

- Department of Natural Resources / FEMA – Flood Reports and Photos
- Department of Health and Senior Services – Flood of 1993: Slides
- Department of Transportation – Flood Photographs: Flood of 1993 (Also on Missouri Digital Heritage)
- <http://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/search/collection/p16795coll5/searchterm/1993/order/nosort>
- Department of Public Safety – Photo Album: Flood of 1993
- Vertical File – Archives Reference: Flood of 1993, Missouri

### **The Trail of Tears**

This was a series of forced removals of Indian people from their homelands in the southeastern United States to Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma), culminating with the removal of the Cherokee in 1838 – 1839. Even though the Cherokee had adopted many practices of the white culture and had used the court system in two major Supreme Court cases, they were unable to halt the removal process.

- Department of Public Safety - Office of the Adjutant General: Missouri National Guard, Muster Rolls for the Indian Wars
- Department of Public Safety - Office of the Adjutant General: Missouri National Guard, Indian Wars
- National Register Files
  - Historic and Historical Archaeological Resources of the Cherokee Trail of Tears (Multistate) - <http://dnr.mo.gov/shpo/nps-nr/TrailOfTearsMPS.pdf>

- Cherokee Trail of Tears in Missouri (NR007) <http://dnr.mo.gov/shpo/nps-nr/64501226.pdf>
  - Indian Ford (NRRI009)
  - Bainbridge Ferry (NRCG048) - <https://dnr.mo.gov/shpo/nps-nr/07000573.pdf>
  - Bainbridge Ferry Road (NRCG049) - <https://dnr.mo.gov/shpo/nps-nr/07000577.pdf>
  - Green's Ferry (NRCG051)
  - Snelson-Brinker House (NRCR005) <https://dnr.mo.gov/shpo/nps-nr/07000576.pdf>
- *Trail of Tears in Southeast Missouri* - Map circa 1994, Department of Economic Development, Division of Tourism
  - Map shows the three trails through Missouri and provides background history.
- Vertical File – In Reading Room
  - Native Americans – Missouri and Tribe Histories
  - Trail of Tears
- Commerce and Industrial Development and Tourism Photo collections – These collections include many modern photographs of the current Trail of Tears State Park. Indexes and images available in Reading Room.
- *Trail of Tears: The Rise and Fall of the Cherokee Nation*, John Ehle (R970.004 Eh52) – Reading Room
- *Cherokee Sunset: A Nation Betrayed, a Narrative of Travail and Triumph, Persecution and Exile*, Samuel Carter III (R970.004 C2467) – Archives Reading Room

## **Dred Scott Decision**

Dred Scott, a slave, who had lived in the free state of Illinois and the free territory of Wisconsin before returning to the slave state of Missouri, sued for his emancipation (freedom). The case, which started in the Old Courthouse in St. Louis, went all the way to the US Supreme Court, where in 1857, Chief Justice Roger B. Taney declared that all blacks -- slaves as well as free -- were not and could not ever become citizens of the United States. The court also declared the 1820 Missouri Compromise unconstitutional, thus permitting slavery in all of the country's territories. This case deepened the conflict between free and slave states, and helped to move the country toward the Civil War.

- Case File and related information - Vertical Files – Reading Room
- St. Louis Circuit Court Case - <http://www.stlcourtrecords.wustl.edu/display-case-images.php?caseid=7150&page=1>
- MO Supreme Court Case
  - 1848 Case – Emerson, Irene v. Scott, Dred and Scott, Harriet  
<http://www.sos.mo.gov/Images/Archives/SupremeCourt/B161F17a.pdf>
  - 1852 Case – Scott, Dred v. Emerson, Irene  
<http://www.sos.mo.gov/Images/Archives/SupremeCourt/B161F17b.pdf>
- U.S. Supreme Court Case - <https://www.loc.gov/item/10034357/>
- Missouri's Dred Scott Case, 1846-1857, Missouri State Archives - <https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/africanamerican/scott/scott>
- *Slavery, Law and Politics: The Dred Scott Case in Historical Perspectives*, Dan E. Fehrenbacher (R346.7301 F322) – Archives Reading Room
- *They Have No Rights: Dred Scott's Struggle for freedom*, Walter Ehrlich (R346.73 Eh89) – Reading Room
- *Dred Scott: A Brief History with Documents*, Paul Finkleman (R342.73 F4957) – Reading Room
- Old Courthouse web page on Dred Scott case <http://www.nps.gov/jeff/planyourvisit/dredscott.htm>
- Library of Congress web page – Primary documents – Dred Scott v. Sanford  
<https://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/DredScott.html>
- **The Missouri State Archives has many freedom suits that occurred before Dred Scott. Information about these lawsuits may be accessed at <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/Records/Archives/ArchivesDb/supremecourt/>**

## **Civil Rights**

### **Ester vs. Clamorgan (1809) and Ester vs. Carr – Missouri Supreme Court (Territory of Missouri)**

Jacques Clamorgan gave Ester, a freed slave, land in and around the area of Laclede's Landing. He took the land from Ester, when Missouri became a territory. Ester sued Clamorgan and won the return of her land in a series of court cases.

- Supreme Court of Missouri Historical Records  
<https://s1.sos.mo.gov/Records/Archives/ArchivesDb/supremecourt/>
- Corbett, Katharine T. *In Her Place: A Guide to St. Louis Women's History*. St. Louis: Missouri Historical Society Press, 1999. (Located in the Archives Reading Room)

### **Gaines vs. Canada (1937)**

Missouri Supreme Court Case - University of Missouri denied Lloyd Gaines admission to the University's law school because he was black. The case went to the United States Supreme Court.

- Missouri Supreme Court – September 1937: Gaines vs. Canada SC36235
- Vertical File – Reference: Gaines vs. Canada

### **Bluford vs. Canada (1941)**

Missouri Supreme Court Case - University of Missouri denied Lucille Bluford to the University's School of Journalism because she was black.

- Missouri Supreme Court – May 1941: Bluford vs. Canada SC38316
- Vertical File – Archives Reference: Bluford vs. Canada

### **Shelley vs. Kraemer (1946)**

Missouri Supreme Court Case that involved the Shelley family who bought a home in a neighborhood in which a majority of the property owners had signed a restrictive covenant. The covenant stated that no home was to be sold to any person who was black, which led to the suit by the neighborhood to undo the sale of the property to Shelley. The case went to the United States Supreme Court.

- Missouri Supreme Court – September 1946: Shelley vs. Kraemer SC40692
- Department of Natural Resources – National Historic Register Places: NRSLC151 – Shelley House – St. Louis
- Vertical File – Archives Reference: Shelley vs. Kraemer

## **World War I**

President Woodrow Wilson was re-elected President of the United States on November 7, 1916. Because the United States wanted to remain neutral during the war, Wilson ran for re-election under the slogan "He kept us out of war." One month after his inauguration, the United States entered WWI on the side of the Allies. On May 18, 1917, the Selective Service Act was enacted authorizing the United States government to raise an army for service in World War I through conscription. In his May 1917 proclamation to the Governors of all states, President Woodrow Wilson outlined the registration process and encouraged the country to get behind the war effort.

- President Wilson – proclamation – Missouri Digital Heritage  
<http://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/compoundobject/collection/overthere/id/10029/rec/62>
- *Proclamation by Governor Frederick D. Gardner* – May 22, 1917  
Missouri Secretary of State – Commissions: Governor's Proclamations 1892 – 2014
- Soldiers' Records: War of 1812 – World War I  
<https://s1.sos.mo.gov/records/archives/archivesdb/soldiers/>
- Office of Adjutant General – Soldiers Bonus Commission
  - Card File 1922 -1956

- Applications – Denied
  - Applications – Approved
  - Correspondence Files
- Office of Adjutant General – World War I Biography and Service Records
- Office of Adjutant General – World War I Induction Lists
- Office of Adjutant General – Home Guard Records:
  - National Guard Enlistment Contracts
  - Military Commissions
  - Muster Rolls
- Office of Adjutant General – Miscellaneous Records:
  - Prisoner of War Index Cards
  - List of Females Who Served in World War I
  - List of Scott County Soldiers Who Died
- Vertical File – Archives Reference: World War I